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tude of the pole star, and altogether nearly 200 altitudes by aneroid were determined, the meteorological station at Beirut supplying a record of the daily march of the barometer for purposes of comparison, while the leveled line of railway gave a reference to sea-level. The map, like Dr. Musil's previous one of Arabia Petræa, has been plotted on the scale of 1:300,000, but it will be published on a smaller scale. The results of the journey will be issued by the Vienna Academy of Sciences.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY has received \$100,000 to be ultimately used for promoting cultural relations between Germany and the United States, and \$30,000 from Mr. E. D. Adams, to buy and equip a Deutsches Haus for the university. In addition to several other gifts, a farm of 320 acres, valued at \$15,000 has been given for an experiment station in connection with projected instruction in agricultural engineering.

ANNOUNCEMENT is made of a gift of \$100,000 to the Johns Hopkins University endowment fund by Mr. R. Brent Keyser, chairman of the board of trustees. The university must raise \$750,000 in order to secure \$250,000 from the general educational board.

THE University of Pittsburgh has received from Mr. Joseph C. Trees, '93, a gift of \$100,000, to be applied toward the construction of a new gymnasium and athletic field.

MR. FREDERICK WEYERHAUSER, of St. Paul, has promised to erect a \$150,000 auditorium and conservatory building for Augustana College at Rock Island, Ill.

THE dedication of the new Science Hall at Howard University, Washington, took place on December 13. The principal addresses were given by Dr. Henry S. Pritchett, president of the Carnegie Foundation, Dr. William H. Welch, of Johns Hopkins University, and Dr. Booker T. Washington, principal of Tuskegee Institute.

PROFESSOR FREDERIC S. LEE has been appointed to the directorship of the department of physiology of Columbia University. It is

expected that the staff of the department will be increased beyond its present membership by the appointment of several additional trained physiologists.

DR. EDWARD MARTIN, professor of clinical surgery at the University of Pennsylvania, has been elected to the John Rhea Barton professorship of surgery to succeed Dr. J. William White.

DR. F. LYMAN WELLS, formerly assistant in pathological psychology in the McLean Hospital, has entered upon the duties of assistant in experimental pathology in the Psychiatric Institute of the New York State Hospitals, and lecturer in psychology in Columbia University.

AMONG recent appointments in botany at the Michigan Agricultural College are the following: Dr. Wm. H. Brown, Ph.D. (Hopkins), to be research assistant in plant physiology under the Adams fund, at the Agricultural Experiment Station, for three fourths of his time, the remainder to be devoted to teaching advanced plant physiology in the botany department of the college. Dr. Brown comes from the Desert Laboratory, Tucson, Arizona, where he has been spending some months in research. Professor G. H. Coons to be research assistant in plant pathology at the Experiment Station, devoting one fourth of his time to teaching plant pathology at the college. Professor Coons is now assistant professor of agricultural botany at the University of Nebraska. He will assume his duties at the Michigan Agricultural College on January first.

M. MAURICE LERICHE, of Lille, has been appointed professor of geology at the University of Brussels.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

IS THIS A DYNAMICAL PROOF OF THE PYTHAGOREAN THEOREM?

As indicated in the figure,  $O-p$  is assumed to be a rod without mass which can revolve in the plane of the paper about  $O$  as center.  $1-2$  is also assumed to be another rod without mass which lies in the plane of